

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A photographic engraving process capable of high definition on metal, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a photographic positive or negative of the image to be reproduced in the engraving;

cleaning, degreasing, and polishing a metal surface where the engraving is to be made;

impregnating said metal surface with photosensitive emulsion;

making contact between said surface to be engraved and said photographic positive or negative, using a press in which exposing radiation passes through a pressure-applying medium which adapts to the contours of said emulsion-bearing surface;

exposing said surface to actinic light through said pressure-applying medium;

developing said emulsion by attacking the metal with salts or acids on the areas unprotected by emulsion;

stripping said protective emulsion and cleaning the remains of said salts or acids; and

applying a protective layer of transparent enamel.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein said metal surface to be treated consists of a thin metal film applied to a ceramic surface, and further comprising the step of baking of the whole at temperatures of from 700° to 800°C.

3. The process according to claim 1 further comprising a step of hardening said developed emulsion by heating it to a temperature of at least 200°C.

4. A process according to claim 3, wherein said hardening is at a temperature of from 200°C to 400°C.